PROPOSALS

For Raiſing an

INFIRMARY,

BY

Voluntary SUBSCRIPTION and CONTRIBUTION,

FOR THE

More Immediate Relieving the Sick and Diſeaſed POOR.

OF all Circumſtances that affect the Mind of Man with Compaſſion, no one ſeems to touch it ſo nearly as the ſeeing our Fellow-Creatures labouring with Diſeaſes, and even periſhing under them, for want of proper and timely Aſſiſtance. For who, that is not perfectly ſavage in Nature, can paſs regardleſs by thoſe Numbers of miſerable Objects, who daily preſent themſelves to us, and whoſe various Diſeaſes (were all other Motives ſilent) would be as ſo many Tongues, which at once ſpeak their own Anguiſh, and excite our Pity; and which is conſiderably enhanced, by this melancholly Reflection, that thoſe who do not expoſe themſelves to move it, are many more than thoſe that do.

Now whether we conſider ſuch unhappy Creatures in a political or a charitable View, they certainly have a Claim to our Favour and Concern; for as much as the Wealthy and Superior Part of the Community, owe their Happineſs, Eaſe and Affluence to the indigent, but induſtrious Part of it. Is it not juſt then, that either from Intereſt, or Gratitude, *They* ſhould be ſupported and relieved, from whom, in reality, we ourſelves are ſupported?

Theſe Conſiderations have been the Foundation of *Hoſpitals* in all civilized Nations. And as the Characteriſtic of the *Engliſh* is to be more humane and beneficent, ſo have we more of them, and thoſe better regulated, than in any other Country whatſoever.

Some there are that have been nobly endowed and graciouſly given by our Pious and Charitable KINGS; others of more modern Inſtitution, that have been erected and ſupported by the generous and voluntary Subſcription of good and well-diſpoſed People. Nay, it is incredible with what Eagerneſs and Alacrity all Ranks have joined in this good and valuable Work, as *St. George's Hoſpital* and the *Infirmary*, do ſufficiently teſtify. But all theſe Foundations are by Experience known to be by no means adequate to the Numbers that ſeek Aſſiſtance from them, and for want of which (as they can take in no more Patients than they have Beds, or give Medicine, with the needful Advice, to more than what their Income for that purpoſe will allow) many poor Creatures muſt be unavoidably loſt. It is with great Concern ſeveral worthy Gentlemen have ſeen this, and from Tenderneſs and Compaſſion been willing, as much as in them lay, to remedy the Complaint. But the frequent Miſapplication of Charity-Money being likely to deter ſome, to take off that Suſpicion, and anſwer the wiſhed-for End in the beſt manner, they have propoſed the following Means.

Imprimis,

Imprimis, That a SUBSCRIPTION be ſet on foot for the raiſing a Sum of 200 Guineas at leaſt; which it is conceived will anſwer the Expence of Neceſſaries for about 1000 Paupers *per ann.* in their ſeveral Courſes of Cure, excepting Nouriſhment and Lodging, which cannot be afforded out of it; wherefore the Charity muſt be conducted upon the Syſtem of Out-Patients in other Hoſpitals.

But if the Subſcription ſhould amount to 300 Guineas, the Infirmary will be enabled to take in, lodge and diet, at the Rate of 120 Patients *per ann.* whoſe Caſes may in a more particular Manner require it. And ſo in proportion to the Sums advanced, the Charity will be conſiderably increaſed.

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
It is neceſſary, however, that a convenient Houſe be taken, which, for manifold Reaſons, ſhould be in or near *Moorfields*; the ultimate Expence of which in Rent and Taxes, and contingent Charges, ſhould be no more than 25 *l. per ann.* - - -	25	0	0
Item, A Servant Man, and a Motherly Woman, to reſide conſtantly in it, whoſe Wages, Board, &c. ſhould be included in 48 *l. per ann.*	48	0	0
Item, For Fire, Candles, Soap, &c. 16 *l.* may be allowed	16	0	0
Item, For furniſhing 3 Rooms, *viz.* one for the MANAGERS to meet in; one for the Phyſician, and one for the Surgeon, to examine and dreſs the Patients in,	30	0	0
Item, For Medicines for the aforeſaid Number of Paupers, which may be had by Contract, or otherwiſe, as the MANAGERS ſhall think fit,	80	0	0
	199	0	0

It appears upon this Calculation, which rather exceeds than is leſs than what is required, that there will be an Over-plus in the firſt Year's Expence; which may be laid up for the Increaſe of this Charity, as mentioned in the ſecond Article.

Item, It is propoſed, That every Gentleman ſubſcribing Five Guineas ſhall have a Vote in the Management and Direction of this *Infirmary*.---However, it is hoped that ſeveral will extend their Bounty beyond this Subſcription, which may render the Charity ſtill more uſeful.

Item, That the intended Sum of 200 Guineas, or even 150, being ſubſcribed, the ſeveral Subſcribers ſhall be ſummoned to meet, to elect a Treaſurer, to whom the ſaid Money ſhall be paid in. And that no Money ſhall be diſburſed, but by an Order from the Preſident, Vice-Preſident, or a Committee of MANAGERS for the Time being.

Item, That a Committee be then appointed to meet Quarterly, Monthly, or in what Manner the Subſcribers ſhall think proper, for the Superviſing, and better Management of the ſaid intended *Infirmary*.

Item, That the Committee do make a Report to the next General Meeting, of the Proceedings had during their Month or Quarter.

Item,

ACCORDING to a PROPOSAL, intitled, *A* PROPOSAL *for raiſing an* INFIRMARY *by* SUBSCRIPTION, *for the more immediate Relieving the Sick and Diſeaſed* POOR: For the Encouragement of the ſame, I do hereby promiſe to pay on Demand, the Sum of

, to any Treaſurer that may be choſen, in the Manner as is expreſſed in the ſaid Propoſal,

1740.

Item, That a Preſident and Vice-Preſident be choſen, to hold an Annual, Quarterly, or ſuch other Meetings as ſhall be thought proper for the Benefit of this *Infirmary*.

Item, That a Phyſician be elected, to attend *Gratis* every Morning from Eight to Ten, and who ſhall be of Character, Ability, and Experience.

Item, That a Surgeon be appointed in like Manner, to act without any Fee or Reward; and no Surgeon ſhall be elected now, or for the future, who has not ſerved his whole Apprenticeſhip in one of the *Hoſpitals* or *Infirmaries* of this City.

Item, That the Names of the Patients, their Buſineſs, Place of Abode, Diſorder, the Iſſue of the Caſe, and the Name of the Subſcriber who ſent them, be inſerted in ſeveral Columns, in a Book for that Purpoſe; and that the ſaid Book do lie open, for the Inſpection of the MANAGERS, ſo often as they, or any of them, ſhall think proper.

Item, That no Money, or Preſent, be taken by any one belonging to the *Infirmary*, from any of the Patients, or their Friends, upon any Pretence whatſoever.

Item, That no Perſon be admitted without a printed Order, ſigned by ſome MANAGER, to the following Purport, *viz.*

To the Phyſician and Surgeon of the INFIRMARY, *&c.*

GENTLEMEN,

PLEASE to examine the Bearer, , *and if you think* *a proper Object for the Charity, receive under your Care.*

Your humble Servant,

N. N. MANAGER.

Item, That no Soldiers, no Gentlemen's Servants, that are not Subſcribers, nor Perſons affected with the Venereal Diſeaſe, be admitted to partake of this Charity.

Item, That no Patient that ſhall miſbehave, or neglect their Cure, ſhall be any longer intitled to the Benefit of this *Infirmary*.

Item, That the *Infirmary* will give Advice to all poor People; and if their Cure depends only on Bleeding, cutting Iſſues, or ſuch eaſy Means, the Surgeon ſhall perform ſuch Operations without entering their Names, *&c.* provided they come within the Hours before limited.

Theſe are the General Heads thought proper for the Eſtabliſhment of this *Infirmary*. If they are found deficient, the Subſcribers may at their Meeting alter, or add to them, as they ſhall think proper. However, it is hoped, as this ſhort Sketch ſhews ſufficiently that this Inſtitution is calculated for the Relief of Poor Diſeaſed Perſons, and that none of the Money can be perverted from the intended Uſes, that Gentlemen will the more readily contribute towards it, by filling up the Blanks of the incloſed Paper, with ſuch Sums as their Charity and Generoſity may incite them to.

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